

JVC MAGNETICS AMERICA COMPANY  
TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA

**JVC Magnetics America Company of Tuscaloosa, Alabama** manufactures magnetic and optical recording media, including blank VHS and audio tapes. JVC focuses its pollution prevention efforts on a combination of employee training, facility design and construction, and establishing voluntary actions that promote environmental stewardship. Specifically, the Tuscaloosa facility converted a high-pressure nitrogen tank to a low-pressure nitrogen buffer tank, reducing the amount of virgin nitrogen used in the manufacturing process. The facility also redesigned the packaging used to market VHS tapes, reducing virgin cardboard use by more than 6800 tons each year. The Tuscaloosa facility has committed to reducing hazardous solid waste and volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions by 2003.

**AT A GLANCE**

Industry Sector:	Computers and Electronics
Business:	Manufactures magnetic and optical recording media
Facility Employees:	100-499
Accomplishments:	Reduced hazardous material use Reduced material use
2003 Commitments:	Reduce hazardous waste Reduce emissions of VOCs Reduce total material use
Address:	1 JVC Road Tuscaloosa, AL 35405
Web site:	<a href="http://www.jvcmedia.com">www.jvcmedia.com</a>

**ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE**

*Past Accomplishments*

The JVC Magnetics America Tuscaloosa facility has demonstrated its commitment to environmental performance in the areas of pollution prevention and hazardous waste reduction. Between 1998 and 2000, the facility:

- **Reduced hazardous material use** in the manufacturing process by approximately 40% through replacing virgin high-pressure nitrogen with low-pressure nitrogen stored in a buffer tank.
- **Reduced use of virgin cardboard** by more than 560 tons per month by redesigning VHS packaging to include reusable plastic containers.

*Future Commitments*

The Tuscaloosa facility also committed to continued environmental improvement through additional reductions in VOC emissions and hazardous solid waste generation, as well as overall material use. By 2003, the facility will:

- **Reduce hazardous solid waste generation** by replacing the current carbon absorption bed units used to control VOC emissions with a condensor. Solvent recovered from the condensor is reusable in JVC's manufacturing process, thereby removing it from the hazardous waste stream.
- **Reduce VOC emissions** by 5% per VHS piece through increasing the efficiency of coating process through ongoing equipment modifications, including improved recovery system.
- **Reduce total material use** through reformulation of product contents to require less magnetic paint. The facility's goal is to finish 1.9 additional rolls of VHS tape with each batch of magnetic paint.

- **Increase use of recovered solvent reused on-site** by revising formulation of magnetic paint additive.

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

The JVC Magnetism America Tuscaloosa facility uses its Web site to make the company's environmental information available to the public. The facility also provides visitors with an information card detailing JVC's environmental accomplishments. Additionally, JVC staff members participate in local environmental activities.